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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : Confirmation No. 6828
Atsushi WATANABE et al. : Attorney Docket No. 2003_1557A
Serial No. 10/695,391 : Group Art Unit 1745
Filed October 29, 2003 :
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ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and any additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for:

- each U.S. Patent and U.S. Patent application publication;
- each reference previously cited in the international application PCT/_____;
and/or
- each reference previously cited in prior parent application Serial No.
_____.

1a. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

- 1b. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:
 - (1) the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, **or**
 - (2) the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

- 1c. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted: after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and

the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

2. It is hereby certified
 - a. that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or
 - b. that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

3. Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.

4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:
 - a. a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,
 - b. a foreign Office Action submitted herewith,
 - c. the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page,
 - d. the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
 - e. the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:
5. A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.
6. Statement Under 37 CFR 1.704(d)

Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart application, and this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Atsushi WATANABE et al.

By 
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Registration No. 40,268
Attorney for Applicants

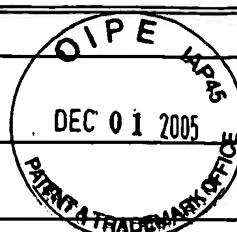
MSH/kjf
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December 1, 2005

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

FORM PTO 1449 (modified)

ATTY DOCKET NO.
2003_1557ASERIAL NO.
10/695,391U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICELIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Date Submitted to PTO: December 1, 2005

APPLICANT
Atsushi WATANABE et al.FILING DATE
October 29, 2003GROUP
1745

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	AG	5-39340	2/1993	JP			Abstract
	AH	2002-231192	8/2002	JP			Abstract
	AI	2001-43893	2/2001	JP			Abstract
	AJ	49-9345	3/1974	JP			Partial
	AP	38-15713	8/1966	JP			Partial
	AL	42-19477	11/1967	JP			Partial
	AM	6-31067	4/1994	JP			Partial
	AN	8-185843	7/1996	JP			Abstract
	AO	6-228498	8/1994	JP			Abstract
	AP	9-63552	3/1997	JP			Abstract
	AQ	2002-208767	7/2002	JP			Abstract

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER	AR	
		DATE CONSIDERED